

was very marked, & to her very gratifying, and so inspired her with hope that we shall be able to do a good work for our country. Such industry in students as we have here must bring forth fruit of which no man need be ashamed. Where pupils are so conscientious, they ought to be furnished with the best opportunities for an education. We hope that a generous public will enable us to offer these opportunities. If we can secure an income from \$200,000., it is our expectation to offer a collegiate education to every one unable to pay for it. Then, when our University is revived, she will find in N.C. a generous and a worthy competitor for public favour. But whatever can be done for Chapel Hill should be done quickly. It is very difficult to change currents of public favour, especially in N.C. The rumour of which you wrote, fills me with hope that bright days will again dawn before many months, on what was once your pride as well as care. I await a confirmation of that rumor with anxiety.

The liberality of Mr. Donaldson² stands in striking contrast with the illiberality of some of the living. When Genl. R. Barringer,³ in this County, discusses the amendments of our Constitution touching our University, he talks scandalously—apparently glorying over its collapse, saying,—as I am told—that under Govr Swain and his associates, the University was “a nuisance,” “a nursery for aristocrats,” “a nest of rowdies,” “no better than a bawdy house,” etc., etc.

The candidates were in this neighborhood yesterday, I tried to get a conveyance to the taxgathering but failed. Genl. B. was not there. But your son (Robt.) replied very properly, I understand, to an outrageous speech made by Genl. B. the day before. (Robt. was “*locum tenens*” for Mr. Waring.)⁴

My own health is very good. Locomotion only, is not what it was.

¹Margaret Mitchell was the daughter of Dr. Elisha Mitchell (1793-1857), a scientist and longtime professor at the University of North Carolina. *DAB*, XIII, 45-46.

²Robert Donaldson II was a native of Fayetteville, attended the University of North Carolina, and became a wealthy benefactor of religious and educational institutions. Although he moved to Hyde Park, New York, in the 1830s, his legacy to Fayetteville was the Donaldson Academy, which resulted from a gift to the First Presbyterian Church. Long a friend of David L. Swain and the university, he willed that institution the bulk of his estate, having disinherited his offspring when they converted to Roman Catholicism. However, his will was faulty and his benefaction was lost. Battle, *History of the University*, II, 42-43, 789; Oates, *Story of Fayetteville*, 451, 828.

³Rufus Barringer.

⁴Robert Payne Waring.

Hardie H. Helper to William A. Graham

UNC

Salisbury, N.C.,
August 1st., 1872.

Mr. Schurz requested me before parting with him last night at Greensboro', to ask you to remit to me a certain document read at Charlotte last Monday by yourself, which, if I remember correctly, was issued under Gen'l